

**PATENT** Docket No. 52743-012004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Pate Burgess	ent Application of:	Certificate of Mailing
Appln. No.:	10/712,121	I, hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any documents referred to as attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 19, 2004.  July Ann G. Serauskas, Reg. No. 27,952
Filed:	November 13, 2003	
For:	Deck Mounting Bracket	
Examiner:	A. Sterling	
Art Unit:	3632	

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## Dear Sir:

The above-identified patent application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 10/154,244, filed May 23, 2002, now abandoned.

In accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. A copy of each reference cited is enclosed herein.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, Applicant submit that no fee or certification is necessary for consideration of the cited references pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any reference or other art, including the disclosures of those references and

In re Appln. of Burgess Appln. No. 10/712,121

other information discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

The citation of the above documents and other information is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with initials or other appropriate remarks.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Ann G. Serauskas, Reg. No. 27,952

Date: February 19, 2004

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY 227 West Monroe Street Chicago, Illinois 60606-5096 tel. no.: (312) 372-2000

fax. no. (312) 984-7700

Sheet 1 of 1 U.S. Department of Commerce Appl. No: (Rev. 5/92) Docket No: Patent and Trademark Office 10/712,121 Comparable to 52743-012004 Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Applicants: Burgess (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date: Group: 3632 November 13, 2003 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** Document Filing Date \*Exam. Number Subclass If Appropriate Initial Date Name Class AA3,359,701 12/26/1967 Schneller ΑB 4,965,980 10/30/1990 Leavens AC 5,160,211 11/03/1992 Gilb 5,775,048 AD 07/07/1998 Orchard FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation Document No. Date. Country Class Subclass Yes No OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Examiner Date Considered \*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.